

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A release liner comprising a surface with an arrangement of structures thereon, wherein the structures extend upward from a plane of the surface, and wherein the structures have at least one sidewall that makes an angle with respect to the plane of the surface of greater than 0° and less than 90° selected to enhance adhesion to a tape.

2. The release liner of claim 1, wherein the at least one sidewall makes an angle of less than about 50° with respect to the plane of the surface.

3. The release liner of claim 1, wherein the at least one sidewall makes an angle of about 30° to about 50° with respect to the plane of the surface.

4. The release liner of claim 1, wherein the structures are ridges.

5. The release liner of claim 1, wherein the ridges form a substantially continuous and substantially regular pattern on the surface.

6. The release liner of claim 5, wherein the ridges have a substantially trapezoidal cross-sectional shape with a substantially flat top.

7. The release liner of claim 5, wherein the ridges are overlapping.

8. The release liner of claim 6, wherein the ridges have a pitch of about 125 to about 2500 μm .

9. The release liner of claim 6, wherein the ridges have a pitch of about 150 to about 1300 μm .

10. An adhesive backed article comprising.

(a) a release liner comprising a surface with an arrangement of structures thereon, wherein the structures extend upward from a plane of the surface, and

wherein the structures have at least one sidewall ~~that makes an angle with respect~~ to the plane of the surface of greater than 0° and less than 90° selected to enhance adhesion to a tape; and

(b) an adhesive layer on the surface of the release liner.

11. The article of claim 10; wherein the at least one sidewall makes an angle of less than 50° with respect to the plane of the surface.

12. The article of claim 10, wherein the structures are ridges, and wherein the ridges form a substantially continuous and substantially regular pattern on the surface.

13. The article of claim 12, wherein the ridges have a substantially trapezoidal cross-sectional shape with a substantially flat top.

14. The article of claim 12, wherein the ridges have a pitch of 150 to about 1300 μm.

15. The article of claim 10, wherein the sidewalls make an angle of about 30° to about 50° with respect to the plane of the surface.

16. The article of claim 10, further comprising a film layer on a surface of the adhesive layer opposite the release liner.

17. The article of claim 16, wherein the film layer is imaged on a surface opposite the adhesive layer.

18. The article of claim 16, further comprising a handling film on the film layer,

19. A method of enhancing the adhesive contact area on a surface of a release liner, comprising providing on the release liner an arrangement of structures extending upward from a plane of the surface, wherein the structures have at

least one sidewall that makes an angle of less than about 50° with respect to the plane of the surface.

5 20. The method of claim 19, wherein the structures are ridges, and wherein the ridges form a substantially continuous and substantially regular pattern on the surface, and wherein the ridges have a substantially trapezoidal cross-sectional shape with a substantially flat top.

10 21. The method of claim 20, wherein the tops of the ridges occupy about 2% to about 12% of the total area of the surface.

22. The method of claim 20, wherein the ridges have a pitch of greater than about 250 micrometers.

15 23. The method of claim 19, wherein the sidewalls make an angle of about 30° to about 50° with respect to the plane of the surface.

20 24. A method of transferring an adhesive backed article with a release liner and an adhesive layer on the release liner, comprising attaching a tape to the release liner, wherein the release liner comprises an arrangement of structures extending upward from a plane of a surface of the liner, wherein the structures have at least one sidewall that makes an angle of less than about 50° with respect to the plane of the surface.

25 25. A method of transferring a graphic article comprising:

(a) providing a graphic article comprising:

a film with a first surface and a second surface, wherein an image occupies at least a portion of the first surface;

an adhesive layer on the second surface of the film; and

30 a release liner on the adhesive layer, wherein the release liner comprises a surface with an arrangement of structures thereon, wherein the structures extend upward from a plane of the surface, and wherein the structures have at

least one sidewall that makes an angle with respect to the plane of the surface of greater than 0° and less than 90° selected to enhance adhesion to a tape;

- (b) removing the film and the adhesive layer under portions of the first surface not occupied by the image such that at least a portion of the surface of the release liner is exposed;
- (c) attaching a handling film to the image and the exposed portion of the release liner; and
- (d) transferring the article into registration with a substrate.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein the structures have at least one sidewall that makes an angle of less than about 50° with respect to the plane of the surface.

27. The method of claim 25, wherein the handling film is selected from a pre-mask film, a pre-space film and a splicing film.

28. The method of claim 25, wherein the structures are ridges forming a substantially continuous and substantially regular pattern on the surface, and wherein the ridges have a substantially trapezoidal cross-sectional shape with a substantially flat top.

29. The method of claim 25, wherein the sidewalls make an angle of about 30° to about 50° with respect to the plane of the surface.

30. The method of claim 25, further comprising the step of removing the handling film from the substrate and the graphic article.